K. Hibernicus. 1464

A

FREEHOLDER's THIRD

ADDRESS,

TO THE

Merchants, Traders, and others, the Freemen and Citizens

OF THE

CITY of DUBLIN.

Containing some Remarks on Mr. *LUCAS*'s Fourteenth ADDRESS.

Ne sit qui dicta fora eliminet. HOR.
------- *Delator amici.* JUV.

DUBLIN:
Printed for PETER WILSON, opposite the Old Horse Guard, in *Dame-street*. 1749.
[*Price Two Pence.*]

after Nov 7 1748

A

THIRD

ADDRESS,

TO THE

Merchants, Traders, and others, the
Freemen and Citizens

OF THE

CITY OF DUBLIN.

Containing some Remarks on Mr. LUCAS's
Fourteenth ADDRESS.

Nefi qui diffa ſera eliminet. Hor.
------ Delator amici. Juv.

DUBLIN:
Printed for Peter Wilson, opposite the Old Horse Guard,
in Dame-Street. 1749.

[Price Two Pence.]

96

A FREEHOLDER's THIRD ADDRESS, &c.

HISTORY, both antient and modern, is pregnant with Inſtances of the Civilities of contending Heroes to each other: We read of Generals, on whoſe Succeſs depended the Fate of Empires, ſupping together on the Eve of a deciſive Battle. Nor are living Examples wanting of Courteſy and Politeneſs after a bloody Engagement; for ſuch is the unvariable Conduct of a generous Mind.

This ſenſible Practice has deſcended into low Life: The ruſtick Combatant, whoſe Prize is the Honour of his County, publickly declares, that a Deſire of Reputation, not Malice, prompts him to enter the Liſt: Nor does the Trial of his Proweſs, even after a Defeat, prevent him from living in an amiable Cordiality with his ſucceſsful Antagoniſt.

It were to be wiſhed, that this noble Cuſtom could by any Means be introduced among Paper Warriors; and that polemical Writers would condeſcend to diſtinguiſh between the Rival and the Man, between the Party-man and the Friend; for want of this, Diſputes are generally carried on with a malicious Heat, inſtead of a candid Ingenuity, and end in perſonal Invectives and Reproach.

It is as much my Intention, as it is my Duty, to avoid this Virulence of Zeal, in these my Remarks on Mr. *Lucas*'s fourteenth Address; this however I shall observe, not to reveal to the Publick any private Conversation of Mr. *Lucas*, or of any of his Friends, which might serve the Purposes of Crimination or Ridicule.

I have indeed ever held it as a Maxim, that "It is "not enough to keep close and uncommunicated, "what is committed with that Caution, but that there "is a general and tacit Trust in Conversation, where-"by a Man is obliged, not to report again any thing, "that may be to the Speaker's Prejudice, tho' no "Intimation has been given of a Desire not to have "it spoke again." The † Lord *Shaftsbury*, whose Words these are, when obliged to leave the King, and go over to the Parliament, left behind him all the Councils of those he had been engaged with, and not one of the King's Party could complain, that he had any Memory of what he had known, when one of them. "This Forgetfulness (says Mr. *Locke*) so be-"coming a Gentleman, and a Man of Honour, had "like to have cost him no little Trouble; for, tho' "threatened by the Parliament to be sent to the "Tower, he peremptorily refused to answer their "Question, (Whether he knew of any secret Treaty "of Mr. *Hollis*'s with the King) at the same Time "assigning this Reason for his Refusal, that he would "not take that dishonourable Way of wreaking his Re-"venge on a Man, who was his Enemy: How would "he have answered, had this Person been his Friend!

And indeed the Publication of a Discourse, in the unguarded Minutes of Privacy, carries with it a Face of Guilt of the blackest Complexion: It destroys all Confidence between Man and Man, which is the Cement of Friendship; it renders it unsafe to lay aside Form, prevents the Mind from putting on that sweet Undress, which refreshes her after, and fits her for laborious

† Locke, Vol. III. p. 473.

laborious Exerciſes, and obliges her to wear Armour, when diſpoſed to indulge in the Pleaſures of ſocial Life.

I have had a real Reſpect for Mr. *Lucas*; I have looked on him, as one of the Champions, who defended your Liberties, as a Patriot, as a Friend. But what has his fourteenth Addreſs produced? Sure I cannot any longer admire a Man, in whoſe Company I find there is Danger, and who, like the *Grecians*, againſt whom * *Juvenal* inveighs, is much to be dreaded, when let into the Secrets of a Family.

Mr. *La Touche* will probably decline to make a Reply to this formidable Penman; this might lead him into the ſame Extravagance, of which Mr. *Lucas* has been guilty, of betraying the private Sentiments of ſome Friend, who might be called upon as a Witneſs in this Diſpute: To deny the Facts, and to call Mr. *Lucas*'s Veracity in queſtion, might revive that juſtly exploded Cuſtom of trying Truth by ſingle Combat, the Event of which could not furniſh the World with any rational Proof, to the Advantage, or Prejudice of either.

I ſhall not enter into a critical Examination of every Argument contained in this fourteenth Addreſs; in many Places my Author ſeems to affect the Air of an Oracle, and by his Obſcurity ſcreens himſelf from Enquiry; in other Places, I have not Sagacity to diſtinguiſh, whether he is ſerious, or ſtoops to Humour: I ſhall therefore confine myſelf to thoſe Things, which are neither above, nor below, the Comprehenſion of every Reader, I mean Facts; and as Mr. *La Touche* is determin'd to forget whatever has paſſed in Private between his *ſeeming Friend* and him, I am under the Neceſſity of taking theſe Facts upon the Teſtimony of Mr. *Lucas* himſelf.

Had

* Scire volunt ſecreta domus, atque inde timeri; Juv. Sat. 3.

Had my well-intended Papers the good Fortune to be as univerſally read, as are Mr. *Lucas*'s more pompous and voluminous Productions, or could he have condeſcended to attend to the Extracts, which I produced in my ſecond Letter from your own Records, he could not have aſſerted, * that *Mr. La Touche had gotten himſelf clandeſtinely elected to the Chair of the Committee of the Commons*; nor would he have ſtiled that Committee of the † Commons a *Faction, a Set of Fools, who acted againſt their own Judgements, as well as againſt the Courſe of Buſineſs.* We are however obliged to him for a Secret of very great Importance, § as in this Place he with great Ingenuity confeſſes, that he never attended the Committee after this *clandeſtine*, tho' *unanimous*, Election of Mr. *La Touche* to the Chair; that he refuſed the Uſe of all his Papers, (whether compiled for his Amuſement, or for your Benefit, can no longer be a Doubt) and that he was not in any Degree inſtrumental to the Proſecution of your Rights, till he demeaned himſelf ſo far, as to accept the Place of Secretary to the Truſtees, of whom the Commons had appointed Mr. *La Touche* Preſident in full Aſſembly: This happened near two Years after the Appointment of the Committee, and ſome Months after the Publication of their Reports. Nor here can I help ſummoning your Attentions to notice this long Receſs of Mr. *Lucas* from the Service of the Publick, during which Time you have his own Word, that he gave no Manner of Aſſiſtance to the common Cauſe: And yet (which ſcarcely will be believed) his Behaviour in the Common Council, and his vigorous Oppoſition to the Board of Aldermen, are the Services, for which he claims your Regards, and which, I thought till now, were in reality his ſtrongeſt Recommendations to the Affections of his Fellow-Citizens.

We are told in his ſixth Page, that Mr. *Lucas*'s firſt Acquaintance with Mr. *La Touche* was in the common

* p. 29. † p. 29 and 30. § p. 30.

common Council, *all of which, not excepting the Aldermen, nor, to his Grief, Patriot* La Touche, *were ignorant that there was a Charter in the City.* This indeed is ſtrange, that Aldermen, who had been honoured with the Thanks of the Houſe of Commons for their Attachment to the Conſtitution of the City, in a moſt perilous Time; whoſe Principles and Loyalty had withſtood the Influence of the Government, and the Power of a dangerous Faction, (and ſuch were living at Mr. *Lucas*'s Admiſſion among the Commons) who in the ſtate of their Caſe, preſented to the Queen and her Government, had quoted their Charters, ſhould by an unaccountable Infatuation have forgot, that they had ever heard, or known of any, * *but blindly followed the Traces of their wiſe Predeceſſors.* This indeed is ſtrange, that Mr. *La Touche*, who had aſſiſted at your publick Feaſts, ſhould never have read of Charters on the Chronological Tables hung up in the Tholſel for the publick Inſtruction; that a Man, whoſe early Ambition to be your Repreſentative, he takes uncommon Pains to ridicule, ſhould never have read the Tranſactions of the City, or the Report made by your Recorder ſo late as the Year 1713. Yet ſtrange as it is, this is repreſented to you as a Fact, to which, nothing leſs than a ſuppoſed Infallibility in the Relater can ever give the leaſt Appearance of a Truth.

And as Mr. *Lucas* has thought proper to publiſh the Occaſion of his firſt Acquaintance with Mr. *La Touche*, and thinks it a Matter of Importance, that the Publick ſhould be informed of the ſubſequent Conduct of each, I ſhall take the Liberty of relating more at large, what gave birth to an Acquaintance and Intimacy between theſe two Gentlemen.

Mr. *La Touche* had at ſeveral Times, during his firſt ſix Years of Service in the Commons, made ſeveral Motions tending to the Recovery of certain Rights, which were denyed to be in the Commons; theſe did not

not meet with that Encouragement, which they deſerved, but it did not damp his Zeal. In the Chriſtmas-Aſſembly 1741 (the firſt Day Mr. *Lucas* took his Seat in the Common Council) Mr. *La Touche*, utterly unacquainted with Mr. *Lucas*, thought this the fitteſt Opportunity of ſounding the Diſpoſitions of his new Fellow-Councellors, and accordingly he renewed a Motion, which he had often made before "that the "Lord Mayor and Sheriffs ſhould no longer be ap-"pointed on all Committees, as perſons, in whoſe "abſence no buſineſs was to be done." He had the Pleaſure to find his Motion ſeconded, and countenanced by the Majority of his Brethren: It met indeed with violent Oppoſition from others, the Diſpute grew warm, and the Sheriffs in an unprecedented Manner quitted the Chair: Upon this Mr. *Lucas* accoſted Mr. *La Touche*, made him a genteel Compliment on his Motion, and aſſured him, that if he would renew it in the next Aſſembly, he might depend on all the Aſſiſtance and Support, which he and his Friends ſhould be able to give him: This was accepted with Thanks; and here began an Union and Friendſhip, which might be preſumed would have been laſting, as it was the concurrence of two Minds in the ſame virtuous Sentiments, influenced by the ſame Deſire of promoting the Intereſts, and recovering the Rights of their Country-men. What has occaſioned a Breach in this Alliance, will appear in the Sequel.

Had not Mr. *La Touche*'s Friendſhip been ſincere, ſuch a Friendſhip as is blind to the Errors and Inconſiſtencies of its Object, an Incident ſoon happened, which would have opened the Eyes of any Man of leſs than common Diffidence. When the Aldermen, by the Firmneſs of the Commons, were reduced to the Neceſſity of acquieſcing in ſome of their Demands, they condeſcended to referr the above cited Motion with ſome others, to the Conſideration of a Committee, in which the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, according to

Cuſtom,

Cuſtom, were to preſide. In this Committee Mr. *La Touche* happened to mention one of theſe Reſolutions of the Commons, as a Law, which, having the Sanction of their Approbation, they would not, as he apprehended, give up. The Word *Law* carried in it ſomething ſo Offenſive to the Lord Mayor, that he upon this diſſolved the Committee. In this firſt Contention, to which Side can we ſuppoſe that Mr. *Lucas* leaned? Not to the Party of Liberty: For he gave up his Friend, ſided with the Lord Mayor, and acknowledged that he had proceeded too far: This I believe Mr. *Lucas* will not deny, unleſs he intends to make it doubtful, whether he has loſt his Memory or Shame.

Another Charge againſt Mr. *La Touche* * is *that he always managed ſo prudently, as to keep up his Friendſhip with the Board*, and † *that he has now diſcovered an Amendment in their Morals*, to which he might have added, that Mr. *La Touche*, not content to have been related to ſome of the leading Members of the Board by a former Marriage, was, while Chair-man of the Committee, ſtrengthening his Intereſt, and ſoliciting a new Alliance among them: He might have proved, that Mr. *La Touche* has maintained a familiar Intercourſe with many of the Aldermen, that "§ he looks "upon them as men, to whoſe private Character he "has no Objection; as men, from whoſe Friendſhip "he might have expected Favours, could he in re"turn have prevailed on his Underſtanding or Conſci"ence to have joyned in Opinion with them, in "Matters relating to the City." But it ſeems that Mr. *Lucas* has acted upon different Principles, he would not oppoſe the publick Meaſures of Men, whom he did not firſt hate: His publick Oppoſitions were owe-ing to private Enmities, and his zealous Spirit was the Clamour of perſonal Reſentment.

It would not have taken up much of your Time to read, nor have given Mr. *Lucas* much Trouble to

 enumerate

* P. 7. † P. 27. § vide his Addreſs.

enumerate the particular losses of Friends, he has sustained by espousing the Cause of Liberty. He has been employed (if my Information be just) in his Profession by three of *their Worships*, and two of these are still his Friends and Customers: One of them, as he complains in his * Apology, ordered *his Bill to be brought in*, nor would *that worthy Gentleman* shew him afterwards the least mark of his Favour. This however was not a voluntary Sacrifice to the Publick, for he laboured hard to gain a readmission: Two Letters were written, one to the *temporary Lord*, the other to his *Lady*; and altho' we may suppose the former full of Expostulation, and *Roman* Sentiments of Liberty, yet we may with Reason imagine that the latter, as addressed to a Lady, was rather in the stile of Apology, Submission and Complaisance. Yet this is the great Instance of † *his feeling the weight of their Worships Displeasure, and of enjoying the inexpressible and endless Comforts of a self-approving Conscience at the Loss of some of the sordid, perishing Trash of this World.*

We have in the same Page a Paragraph of such Perplexity, that it looks rather like the Prevarication of a false Evidence, than the Performance of so able a Master, as Mr. *Lucas* is esteemed to be in the Art of polemical writing. He informs us, § *that he drew up the state of the Case of your Grievances, with an Intent to lay it before the Parliament, that he shewed it to his professed Friend, who applauded and approved the Matter, and pressed him to publish it.* Now was this a Paper to be laid before the Parliament, I apprehend, he would rather have courted his Friend to sign it, as many Names subjoined would probably have removed the Danger, it might otherwise be attended with. But possibly this was not a Petition intended to be offered to the Parliament, but rather a Libel, designed to be printed and dispersed under the Title of an Appeal to the Legislature; and this I inferr from his Desire of publishing

* p. 83. † p. 7. § p. 7.

publiſhing it, and the Apprehenſions of his Friends as to the Conſequences. But what Meaſures does Mr. *Lucas* purſue at this Criſis? *Honeſtly* ſuſpecting, that his profeſſed Friend would not * *burn his own Fingers*, while he could *uſe his Paws*, he offers to Mr. *La Touche* theſe Papers, which, like *Hercules*'s Shirt, were to conſume whoever ſhould uſe them, in order that they ſhould be publiſhed in Mr. *La Touche*'s Name: This is one, and perhaps the only Inſtance, in which Mr. *Lucas* would have ſuffered his Friend † *to ſtand on his Neck and Shoulders*: But to what Purpoſe? That he might with the greater Eaſe have aſcended a Cart or Scaffold.

But ſhould we ſuppoſe that this hazardous Performance was no other, than that very Complaint, which Mr. *Lucas* publiſhed two Years after, this will lead us into another Anecdote, which may ſerve to illuſtrate and diſtinguiſh the different Characters of theſe two profeſſed Friends.

About this Time Mr. *La Touche* preſented to the Earl of *Cheſterfield* all the Papers, which he judged neceſſary to explain the Grievances of the Commons and Citizens; in his Dedication he made an Abſtract of the Conſtitution of the City; gave a faithful, tho' ſhort, Account of the Proceedings of the Commons, of their Diſappointment in the judicial Courts, in their Expectations, that the Legiſlature would have thought their Caſe a National Concern, and applied to the Crown, as to his laſt Reſource. This ſeems to have been ſubſequent to the generous Offer Mr. *Lucas* made of putting his Papers into Mr. *La Touche*'s Hands; and, if we make any Allowance to Self-opinion, Mr. *La Touche* may have thought, that his Complaint was equal in Strength to that drawn up by Mr. *Lucas*; he ſcorned to father the Writings of another, or, which is very probable, he thought it inconſiſtent with his Character, to uſe Invective inſtead of Argument, and, not agreeable to Prudence, to rouſe thoſe to Anger, who had

* p. 8. † p. 19.

the Power, and might be brought to the Inclination, of breaking your Chains aſunder.

However it is evident from this, that Mr. *La Touche* at leaſt pointed out to Mr. *Lucas* the Way to the higher Powers, and firſt laid your Caſe before the Government, without the Support, or even the Encouragement of his Friend; who, when he found that the Road was opened, ventured in the ſame Tract; and thoſe *real Friends*, who had eſteemed the Complaint too hazardous to be preſented, now thought the Undertaking moſt promiſing and ſafe.

We are informed in his eighth Page, of a remarkable Inſtance of Mr. *Lucas*'s Friendſhip; for not content that his Corporation had paid him unuſual Honours, he made uſe of his prevailing Intereſt to aggrandize his Friend, and at his Inſtance, to put the Aldermen under the diſagreeable Neceſſity of admitting among the Commons one of their conſtant Oppoſers, Mr. *La Touche* was returned with him, on a Vacancy, * *as one equally obnoxious to the Board.*

The Queſtion now is, Whether Mr. *Lucas* did at that Time deceive his Corporation, or whether he now deſigns to impoſe upon you? He has told you, that *Mr.* La Touche *always managed ſo prudently, as to keep up his Friendſhip with the Gentlemen at the Board, while † the fouleſt Dregs of the bitter Cup of their Indignation were upon all Occaſions poured out upon him*; and at this Juncture, which was one Year and ſix Months after that the Aldermen had excluded both from the Council, he repreſents Mr. *La Touche* to his Corporation, as one obnoxious equally with himſelf to the Board. To which of theſe Propoſitions ſhall we give Credit? Both cannot be, and perhaps a little Examination will ſhew that neither is true.

Mr. *Lucas* had all the Reaſon to believe that Mr. *La Touche*'s Conduct had ſubjected him much more to the Diſpleaſure of the Board, than his Behaviour could poſſibly have done; he muſt have been ſenſible, that Mr.

* p. 9. † p. 7.

Mr. *La Touche*, notwithſtanding his Intimacy and Alliances with the Board, had not, in any one Inſtance, made any Conceſſion to them, injurious to the Cauſe which he had eſpouſed; that the very Aſſembly before that, in which the Aldermen did him the Honour to reject him, he had diſobliged two of the principal Aldermen, his Relations and Friends, by refuſing to give his Voice in favour of their Nephew, who then ſtood Candidate for the Place of Sword-bearer to the City; that on this Occaſion he had ſhut his Ears to the Sollicitations of thoſe neareſt and deareſt to him, and that the Tyes of Blood had been made to give Place to thoſe of Honour and of Duty.

Mr. *Lucas*, on the other Hand, had ſome room to hope, that the Aldermen would have made him ſome Return of Favour, for the Services he had rendered them in this Affair; nor would it have been unreaſonable in him to expect, that their Gratitude to him would have born ſome Proportion with the Reſentment, they had ſhewn againſt his Rival. That you may the better judge, whether theſe Concluſions be natural, I ſhall take the Liberty of giving you a Narrative of this Tranſaction.

In the Year 1742 the Sword-bearer died, and the Aldermen, as uſual, deſigned this Place for one of their Creatures, and accordingly ſet up the Son of an Alderman: The Commons, on the contrary, imagined, that to exert ſome Spirit on this Occaſion, and to reduce the Board to the Neceſſity of electing one, who had recommended himſelf to the publick Eſteem by his Oppoſition of the Aldermens Uſurpations, would give Spirit and Life to the Cauſe of Liberty, and make it the Intereſt, as well as the Duty, of every Citizen, to join with them in their infant Endeavours to recover their loſt Rights: They accordingly made choice of Mr. *Martin Kirkpatrick*, as one, who had made no inconſiderable Figure in their Committee; as one, who had ſupported the common Cauſe in his own Corporation with undaunted Spirit; and as one, whoſe

whoſe Principles and Behaviour had raiſed the Reſentment of the Board againſt him, as much as any of the Patriot-party: However, the Prevalence of Faction, and the Torrent of Power, turned the Scale in favour of the Aldermen, and the Minion of Tyranny was elected. What Part Mr. *Lucas* acted in this Tranſaction, I ſhall not, for want of clear Information, take upon me to repreſent; his Zeal for his Fellow-labourer could not however be of any warmth, as his Services (if I can ſuppoſe that he did him any) were ſo ſecret as to eſcape the quick-ſighted Obſervation of the Publick. Two Years after this the ſame Place became vacant a ſecond Time, and Mr. *Kirkpatrick* renewed his Offers of Service and his Sollicitations: His Attempt at this Time carried a fairer Shew of Succeſs, as the Gentleman, whom the Alderman had ſet up in Oppoſition to him, was young, and never had an Opportunity of doing Service, or even ſhewing the Symptoms of a good Diſpoſition to the City; his only Recommendation was a Conſanguinity with two Aldermen, and by a very expreſſive Law of the Commons, he could not be admitted into any Office of the City, becauſe he had not been ſworn free ſix Months before the Vacancy. This gave Mr. *Lucas* a glaring Opportunity of convincing his two Cuſtomers at the Board, that he had not confounded them with the Herd, and that he could upon Occaſion ſacrifice the Publick to private Friendſhip; for he openly abandoned his Party, and deſerted his Coadjutor. Whether he ſollicited Votes abroad, I cannot anſwer; but he pleaded with Earneſtneſs the Cauſe of the Aldermen in the Common Council, and (I wiſh I could not ſay it) with Succeſs. He declared, that the Law ought to remit ſomewhat of its Strictneſs on this Occaſion, and not be uſed as an Obſtacle to a young Man of ſo much Merit, and ſo happily related; that he had an undoubted Titule to his Freedom by Service to his Brother, for whoſe Neglect, in not enrolling his Indentures, it was not juſt that he ſhould ſuffer; that he had the Gentleman's Indentures in his

Pocket

Pocket to produce, and that the Petitioner had complied as nearly as he could with the Terms of the Law, for that he had taken out his Freedom before the Death of the late Sword-bearer. Theſe Repreſentations, however weak, were of ſufficient Strength with Men, who only wanted a Pretext to break through their own Laws, and the Aldermens Favourite was choſen by a very ſmall Majority. I ſhall not enlarge upon ſome aggravating Circumſtances, which perhaps owe their Birth to the Suſpicions of Mr. *Lucas*'s Enemies, as, that the Gentleman was not by any Means entituled to his Freedom, and that the Indentures, which Mr. *Lucas* carried in his Pocket, were, to his Knowledge, drawn out but a few Days before, in order to ſerve that particular Purpoſe. This however I look upon as a Certainty, that the Perſon in whoſe Intereſt Mr *Lucas* appeared ſo warmly engaged, could not have been within the Qualification of the Law, which I have before cited: That Mr. *Lucas* acted in Oppoſition to the Principles, which he profeſſed, or rather, like a Deſerter, forſook his Standard, and engaged againſt thoſe, whom it was his Duty to have aſſiſted to the utmoſt of his Abilities.

I cannot paſs over a Fact, which we meet with in the ninth Page, of a Return made to the Board by the Corporation of Barber Surgeons, and how the *three Perſons*, who petitioned againſt Mr. *La Touche* and Mr. *Lucas*, *had not a Right to be, or vote, at the Election.*

All Corporation Charters are granted to the Maſters, Wardens, and all the Brethren, who have by Law a Right to vote in every Affair relating to the Body, and the New Rules have confirmed to them this Privilege. But it has happened, that in the ſubordinate Corporations, as well as in that of the City, a Council has been elected, under Pretext of avoiding Confuſion, to prepare Buſineſs for the Quarterly Aſſembly: They have ſeverally attempted to make themſelves independent of their Conſtituents, and, Alderman-like, to diſpute ſharing with the Body thoſe Powers, which they only

only derive from the ſuppoſed Act and Will of the Brotherhood: They have in many Corporations taken upon them to tranſact the whole Buſineſs, to elect their Repreſentative for the Common Council, to controul the Election of their Officers, and to center in themſelves thoſe Rights and Privileges which are ſolely veſted in the Community. Will it not then appear ſtrange, that, where the Champion of Liberty preſides, where his Power is abſolute, in the Corporation, of which he is Maſter, this unnatural Tyranny and Uſurpation ſhould meet with Support? Yet true it is, for it ſeems that none, but the Council, have a Right to vote in the Election of their Repreſentative in the Common Council. We cannot then be ſurprized at the Accuſation brought againſt Mr. *La Touche*, * that *he has put the Guild of Merchants* (whoſe Council exerciſe this unjuſt Dominion) *into Confuſion, and immerged the Corporation in a tedious and expenſive Law-ſuit.*

Poor Negroes thus, to ſhew their burning Spight
To Cacodæmons, ſay, they're dev'liſh white.

I cannot find, what Inducement Mr. *Lucas* could have had, to publiſh the Converſation in Pages 10 and 11. What Connexion with the Publick have either Mr. *La Touche*'s Ailments, or Mr. *Lucas*'s Medicines? He ſurely did not intend this as an Intimation, that Mr. *La Touche* had contracted abroad ſome Diſtemper too ſhameful to be diſcovered to his Family or his Phyſician in Ordinary. Had this been the Caſe, Mr. *Lucas* (ſuch is his Retention of Secrets) would undoubtedly have obliged the malicious Part of the World with an open and minute Information.

And as I have not deſigned this Paper as a Vindication of Mr. *La Touche*, but rather as a Charge againſt Mr. *Lucas*, I ſhall not enter into an Examination of Mr. *La Touche*'s firſt Advertiſement; this however I muſt obſerve, that † if Mr. *La Touche* ſupreſſed it

* p. 31. † p. 12.

it upon Reaſons, which Mr. *Lucas* offered him, it is a new Breach of Truſt to have re-publiſhed it.

Another Incident offers itſelf to our Examination, which the more deſerves our Attention, as it will ſet in a very conſpicuous Light the Integrity, Candour, and Friendſhip of Mr. *Lucas*. There was a current Report of an Invitation made by Mr. *La Touche* to the Candidate Alderman to his Houſe; from this his Enemies gladly inſinuated that a Coalition was near at hand, nay more, that the Weight of Mr. *La Touche*'s Intereſt was to be transferred to this Gentleman. Mr. *Lucas* did not, as he tells us, give credit to the Report, and indeed how could he? As he had harboured for ſo many Years Suſpicions of Mr. *La Touche*'s *Sincerity*, he might reaſonably ſuppoſe, that thoſe Civilities were but the Bait of Deceit, and laid out to take an Advantage of, or betray the Perſon, to whom they were paid. However in a Converſation with Mr. *La Touche*, he gets out of his own Mouth, that he would give his Voice to the Alderman: This however was uttered in ſuch a manner, that the ſagacious Enquirer could not determine, whether the Anſwer was jocular or not: He then enquired in a preſſing manner, whether he made this Declaration in a ſerious manner; to this, his inconſiderate Rival, unmindful before whom he ſtood, and that his Friend was now become a ſevere Judge, imprudently anſwered, He did, and--------What he had further to ſay could not have been an Aggravation of his Guilt, but probably an Explanation of his ironical Anſwer; for this Reaſon Mr. *Lucas* would not hear it, but broke from him in haſte. Had Mr. *Lucas* reflected on the Laws of Evidence, which he publiſhed in his thirteenth Addreſs, he would not have ſuffered his burning Rancour to break out to his own Diſadvantage, as he muſt be looked upon as a Witneſs, whoſe evil Mind has given the criminal meaning; who did not, nor would not hear the latter Part of a Sentence, neceſſary to the Explication of the former, but probably ſuppreſſed with

Induſtry Part of the Diſcourſe, in order to give his Accuſation ſome Degree of Plauſibility.

And here ended a Friendſhip, which Mr. *Lucas* confeſſes, on his Part, to have been a Courſe of Diſſimulation, Malice and Envy: For if *ſeeming Friendſhip* does not include theſe, I am at a Loſs what Idea to affix to thoſe Words. Mr. *Lucas* undoubtedly knows what his inward Sentiments were, and what ſpecious Appearances of Friendſhip he wore, in order to conceal them: But how could he penetrate into Mr. *La Touche*'s Breaſt? This is a Privilege above Mortality, and to ſearch the Heart, is the peculiar Province of the Deity.

I know that it may be anſwered, that it is uſual to judge of the Affections and Principles of Men by their general Deportment, and, that tho' this will not amount to a Certainty of Knowledge, yet that this Rule ſeldom leads into Error: That if we can account for the Conduct of any Man from any one Principle, we may rationally conclude the Exiſtence of that Principle in his Heart.

But in the Facts I have laid down, it cannot appear that Mr. *La Touche* diſcovered the leaſt mark of Hatred or Envy: No Charge of Deſign has been produced againſt him; for all was free, open, and diſintereſted: But Mr. *Lucas* hung out the Colours of Friendſhip to allure him, and in the end to deſtroy him, as much as in him lay: He dipped in the Diſh with him, that he might the more eaſily betray him, and kiſſed him, while he purpoſed to deliver him up to Infamy and Ruin. His evil Heart miſconſtrued the Behaviour of his honeſt Friend, and his Tendency to Suſpicion made him torture his deſigning Brain, to give ſome hard Interpretation to the artleſs Conduct of one, whom he looked upon as a dangerous Rival. And here give me Leave to add an Obſervation of Mr. *Fielding*'s, "There is a Kind of Suſpicion "(ſays he) which often forms its own Objects, ſees "what is not, and always more than really exiſts: "This

" This is that quick-ſighted Penetration, whoſe " Hawk's Eyes no Symptom of Evil can eſcape, " which obſerves not only upon the Actions, but up- " on the Words and Looks of Men, and as it pro- " ceeds from the Heart of the Obſerver, ſo it dives " into the Heart of the Obſerved, and there eſpies " Evil before it can be ſaid to be conceived. An ad- " mirable Faculty, if it were infallible; but as this " Degree of Perfection is not even claimed by more " than one mortal Being, ſo from the Fallibility of " ſuch acute Diſcernment, have ariſen many ſad Miſ- " chiefs and moſt grievous Heart-aches to Innocence " and Virtue. I cannot help therefore regarding this " vaſt quick-ſightedneſs into Evil, as a vicious Ex- " ceſs, and a very pernicious Evil in itſelf. And I " am the more inclined to this Opinion, as I am a- " fraid it always proceeds from a bad Heart, for the " Reaſons I have before mentioned, and for one more, " namely, becauſe I never knew it the Property of a " good one."

Thus have I waded through this remarkable Addreſs, filled with Miſrepreſentations, and calculated to depreſs Virtue. The Venom of ſerious Ill-nature ſeems to be diffuſed through the Whole, except in thoſe Places, where Envy attempts to ſneer Diſdain. But how unlikely is it to anſwer the End of the Author? That Dirt, which he ſcatters to befoul the Deſerving, muſt recoil on himſelf, and thoſe Arts, with which he attacks the honeſt Patriot, muſt work his own Deſtruction. For how can he appear fit to repreſent you in Parliament, who, fond of the Show of Honour, will not condeſcend to labour for the Publick, unleſs he ſits in the higheſt Place, and who might call every Committee, in which he did not preſide, a Faction, dangerous to the Country, and to the Conſtitution? Who would concert Schemes for the publick Advantage with one, whoſe leaky Breaſt cannot retain the Converſation of Privacy? Or who can ſuppoſe, that he

he will be a true Servant to the Publick, who has proved unfaithful to his Friend? Give me Leave, however, Gentlemen, to warn you againſt the Danger of running into Extremes: Tho' you are deceived in one Commoner, do not imagine, that the Care of your Intereſts can be ſafely intruſted to *one*, who is joined with your Oppreſſors, with thoſe, who have ſtripped you of your Rights, and who oppoſe your virtuous Attempts to recover them. Let your Oppoſition to thoſe domeſtick Tyrants be vigorous and inceſſant: Purſue thoſe Meaſures, which may eaſe the galling Burthen of your preſent, and prevent the Impoſition of new Yokes on you: Reward Merit, beſtow that Honour which is now in your Gift, on *him*, who has borne the Heat and Burthen of the Day in your Service, whoſe early Study has been your Intereſt, whoſe Spirit has been undaunted, whoſe Zeal diſintereſted, and on whom no Calumny can faſten. I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your moſt obedient, and

moſt Humble Servant,

HIBERNICUS.

6 DE 58